## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	) Prior Application:
John E. EBY et al.	) Group Art Unit: 1732
Continuation Application of Serial No.: 08/996,701 Filed: December 23, 1997	Examiner: A. Kuhns ) )
Filed: April 7, 1999	)
For: METHOD OF MAKING A SURFACE COVERING HAVING A NATURAL APPEARANCE (AS AMENDED)	) ) ) )

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-8 and 11-20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims 21-32.

--21. A method of making a surface covering having multiple layers and an embossed design, comprising the steps of:

chemically embossing one of said multiple layers, and

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